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2 TOOL-LESS BLADE CLAMPING APPARATUS FOR A RECIPROCATING TOOL
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4 Abstract of the Disclosure

5 Several preferred embodiments are disclosed for a tool-less blade clamping apparatus for
6 a reciprocating tool of the type which has a reciprocating plunger which has a tool attachment
7 receiving slot for receiving a tool attachment of the type that has a shank portion. The clamping
8 apparatus has an unclamped position and a clamped position. In the unclamped position, a tool
9 attachment can be easily inserted and when it is in its clamped position, the tool attachment is
10 securely retained. The preferred embodiments have at least one spring biasing the apparatus
11 toward the clamped position, a releasable retaining mechanism for holding the apparatus in its
12 unclamped position after being placed in that position. When the blade shank portion is inserted
13 into the slot a predetermined distance, the shoulders of the shank portion release the retaining
14 mechanism to move it to its clamped position. When a blade is to be removed, the clamping
15 apparatus needs only to be moved to its unclamped position by manually rotating the outer
16 sleeve or collar, and the blade is normally ejected from the mechanism by contact with the blade
17 shoulders as it reaches its unclamped position.

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